

ORDINANCE O-2026-48

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE
CITY OF LONGMONT, COLORADO, AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF LONGMONT
HOME RULE CHARTER TO ADD OPEN SPACE TO THE LANDS THAT REQUIRE
VOTER APPROVAL FOR SALE OR CONVEYANCE

WHEREAS section 13.12 of the City of Longmont Home Rule Charter (“Charter”) provides that the Charter may be amended at any time in the manner provided by the Constitution; and

WHEREAS section 9 of Article XX of the Colorado Constitution provides that the Colorado General Assembly shall provide, by statute, procedures under which the registered electors of any city may adopt, amend and repeal a municipal home rule charter; and

WHEREAS the Colorado General Assembly has adopted Part 2 of Article 2 of Title 31 of the Colorado Revised Statutes (“C.R.S.”) to implement section 9 of Article XX of the Colorado Constitution, by providing statutory procedures to facilitate adoption and amendment of municipal home rule charters; and

WHEREAS C.R.S. section 31-2-210(1)(b), provides that proceedings to amend a home rule charter may be initiated by an ordinance adopted by the governing body, including a ballot title for the proposed amendment, submitting the proposed amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, section 13.2 of the Charter currently requires a vote of the majority of qualified voting electors to sell or convey lands owned and used by the city for park purposes, as well as water rights; and

1 WHEREAS, amending section 13.2 of the Charter to add lands owned and used by the City
2 for open space purposes to require a vote for sale and conveyance of such lands would increase
3 protections for open space lands; and,

4 WHEREAS, the Longmont City Council has determined that it is in the best interests of
5 the City to submit to the registered electors of Longmont the following proposed amendments to
6 the Charter.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONGMONT, COLORADO,
8 ORDAINS:

9 Section 1

10 Under section 13.12 of the Charter, Article XX of the Colorado Constitution, and C.R.S.
11 section 31-2-210, at the municipal election to be held on November 3, 2026, there shall appear on
12 the ballot the question of approving the following proposed Charter amendments to amend section
13 13.2 of the Charter as follows:

14 13.2. - Restriction on sales of land and water rights.

15 Neither lands owned and used by the city for *either* park purposes *or open space*
16 *purposes*, nor water rights, shall be sold or conveyed without an affirmative vote of
17 a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon. Other real property may be sold
18 or conveyed by administrative ordinance adopted by a two-thirds majority of the
19 entire council. Nothing in this provision, however, shall prohibit the city from
20 exchanging water, or changing point of diversion of water rights without such vote.

21 *The sale or conveyance of lands owned and used by the city for open space purposes*
22 *shall not require a vote when undertaken for public rights-of-way and easements*
23 *for public roads, utilities, and life-essential infrastructure, for open space*

*operations, or for the sale or conveyance of structures, dwellings, or outbuildings
on such lands.*

Section 2

The ballot title for the proposed Charter amendment shall read as follows:

Shall the City of Longmont Home Rule Charter be amended by revising section 13.2 to add open space to lands that cannot be sold or conveyed without voter approval, with exceptions for public roads, utilities, life-essential infrastructure, open space operations, and the sale or conveyance of structures on such lands?

YES _____

NO _____

Section 3

Pursuant to C.R.S. section 31-2-210(4), the governing body shall, within thirty days of the adoption of this ordinance, publish notice of an election on the proposed Charter amendment. The notice shall contain the full text of the proposed Charter amendment set forth in sections 1 and 2 of this Ordinance. The election shall be held not less than sixty nor more than one hundred twenty days after publication of the notice. If a majority of the registered electors voting thereon approves the amendment, the amendment shall be deemed approved.

Section 4

Pursuant to C.R.S. section 31-2-208, a certified copy of the amendment shall be filed with the City Clerk and Colorado Secretary of State within twenty days after approval of the Charter amendment. The amendment shall take effect on the date of such filing.

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Section 6

Introduced this 28th day of July, 2026.

Passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Cristi Campbell
PROOFREAD

7/24/2026
DATE

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND SUBSTANCE:
2
3

4 /s/ David Bell

7/24/2026

5 ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT

DATE

6
7 CA File: 26-004005